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INDUSTRIAL CROP PLANTING IN YUGOSLAVIA AND BULGARIA;
OTHER AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS

YUGOSLAV INDUSTRIAL CROP PLANTING LAGS -- Politika, No 13134, 16 Jan 49

The program of contracting for the sowing of industrial crops for 1949 began in September and will end soon. It has not achieved satisfactory results except in contracts for sugar beets, the plan for which has been met and will be exceeded, and for cotton and tobacco, the plans for which will soon be met. Contracts for such crops as soya beans, flax, and hemp are lagging far behind the quotas.

By the beginning of January, the over-all plan for tobacco, cotton, sunflowers, soya, flax, hemp, and barley in Croatia was less than half fulfilled. The tobacco district administered from Mostar, which includes the tobacco districts of Herzegovina, part of Bosnia, Dalmatia, Montenegro, and part of Istria, has not met its plan, except in Herzegovina. In Montenegro the tobacco plan has been met a little over 40 percent, and in Macedonia, 85 percent.

Cotton is a new crop in most districts, but contracts thus far total 92 percent of the plan. By the end of November, Macedonian growers had contracted for over 99.13 percent of the area called for in the plan. More land will be planted in chicory in Daruvar Srez than the planned area. The contract plans for sunflowers and hemp have been met in Dobric Srez; Osijek Srez leads Slavonia in contracts for hemp, barley, and sunflowers.

Over 110,000 hectares more than in 1948 will be planted in beets, soya, sunflowers, cotton, barley, hemp, and flax.

LUMBERING MECHANIZATION IN CROATIA -- Borba, No 13, 16 Jan 49

Until 1948, forestry operations in Croatia had not been mechanized. The introduction in early 1948, of power saws, ropeways, conveyors, and tractors has resulted in substantial savings of manpower.

Eighty power saws were in use in Croatia during 1948. There will be about 500 in 1949. One saw can do the work of ten men in felling deciduous trees or

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of 17 in the case of conifers.

A motorized ropeway installed early in December at Delnice carries large logs for more than one kilometer, and does the work of ten men and 15 teams of horses.

The first conveyor, a device to transport small lumber, has been put into service in the Pakrac area. It carries the wood 100-200 meters and does the work of 30 men and 40 teams of horses. Fifty conveyors will be in operation during 1949.

Late in 1948 a skidder made in Yugoslavia was tried out for the first time in the Gora district. This logging device will replace 20 men and 25 teams of horses.

A new ropeway installed in November in the Gora district carries up to 50 cubic meters of lumber a day from Podvodenjak to the Kupjak railroad station. The ropeway has cut transport costs from 437 to 270 dinars per cubic meter and relieved 10 men and 15 horses for other operations. This is the first fully mechanized ropeway in Croatia for forest-to-station transport of wood. Similar ropeways will be installed during 1948 at all the larger lumbering sites.

FLOOD CONTROL IN BOSNIA -- Borba, No 13, 16 Jan 49

Two hundred and seven hectares of land were reforested during 1948 to protect railroad lines, roads, building sites, and farmland from floods. The plan for flood control was exceeded by 30 percent. The main projects were in the valleys of the Bosna, Neretva, Rama, Zeljeznica, and Putisnica, to protect the Samac-Sarajevo and Una railroad lines, hydroelectric power plants, farms, and villages.

The 1949 plan calls for an expenditure of three times as much for flood control as in 1948. The main projects will be to regulate the torrents that flow into the Bosna, Neretva, and Rama.

YUGOSLAV HOG CHOLERA VACCINE -- Borba, No 17, 20 Jan 49

Marko Zeljko, veterinary specialist and Associate of the Federal Institute for Veterinary Service, has developed a crystal violet vaccine for use against hog cholera. The new vaccine should wipe out the disease entirely. Over 150,000 hogs per year have died in Yugoslavia of hog cholera in the past.

The former method, which involved inoculation with serum and live virus, was produced at an annual cost of 100 million dinars. The inoculations had to be repeated over and over again, there was danger of infection, and it was not possible to wipe out the disease by this method.

Crystal violet vaccine is used in other countries, but was not available in Yugoslavia until it was produced by Zeljko, after years of research. The new vaccine is now mass-produced in one of the Yugoslav veterinary institutions.

INDUSTRIAL CROP PLANTING ENCOURAGED IN BULGARIA -- Rabotnichesko Delo, No 26, 3 Feb 49

The Council of Ministers has issued a decree to encourage farmers to plant soya and castor beans, spring rape, poppies, hemp, flax, sugar beets, vegetables, red peppers, strawberries, raspberries, rice, and tobacco.

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Among the incentives offered are: increased prices (15 leva per kilogram for soya and 5 leva per kilogram for castor beans); bonuses in oil (2 kilograms for 100 kilograms of soya or castor beans); the privilege of buying artificial fertilizers at half price; and free soya vaccine.

IRRIGATION CANAL IN BULGARIA -- Rabotnichesko Delo, No 23, 30 Jan 49

An irrigation canal from the "Rositsa" Dam near the village of Dichin, in Veliko Turnovsk, was begun on 23 January by 136 volunteers. On the following day there were 160 persons at work there.

HOFMANN TRACTOR PLANT IN HUNGARY -- Szabad Szo, No 300, 29 Dec 48

The Hofmann Tractor Plant has already delivered almost 1,000 tractors to agricultural machine stations. The plant will have produced 2,500 tractors by the end of the three-year plan. Types of tractors produced are 20-, 30-, and 50-horsepower. Manufacture of other farm equipment has been suspended for the time being. The plant completed its plan a month before schedule. Its departments include a warehouse for raw materials such as iron and steel, a forge, a foundry, and an assembly department.

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